

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 SIL-01 LAB-06 EB-11 OPR-02

OMB-01 DRC-01 /099 W

----- 127185

O R 170516Z JAN 74

FM AMCONSUL UDORN

TO RUMTBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE 1554

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 123

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L UDORN 19

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TH, US

SUBJ: UDORN SITREP 0900 JAN 17

REF: UDORN 16

1. SUMMARY: AIR AMERICA (AA) STRIKERS THIS MORNING CONTINUED OBSTRUCT ENTRANCE OF AMERICAN EMPLOYEES OF COMPANY TO BASE, ALTHOUGH THAI POLICE HAD BEEN POSTED AT GATES SINCE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON TO STOP SUCH INTERFERENCE. WORKERS HOLDING MEETING THIS MORNING TO ELECT REPS FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH COMPANY. STRIKER REPS MET SEPARATELY YESTERDAY WITH VICE GOVERNOR (GOV ABSENT), POLICE, AND AA VICE PRESIDENT IN CHARGE OF UDORN, ALL OF WHOM ASKED THEM LET THOSE WHO WANTED TO GO TO WORK TO DO SO. FACT THAT WORKERS CONTINUED BLOCK ENTRY MAY INDICATE THAT REPS UNABLE CONTROL STRIKERS. END SUMMARY.

2. AT AA REQUEST YESTERDAY WE WORKED ON TWO FRONTS TO SET UP MEETING BETWEEN STRIKER REPS AND AA VICE PRESIDENT ABADIE AND ALSO TO GET POLICE POSTED AT BASE GATES TO GET STRIKERS TO ALLOW EMPLOYEES
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WHO WANTED TO GET ON BASE TO DO SO.

3. ON FIRST FRONT, AFTER I SAW VICE GOV AND PROVINCIAL LABOR OFFICER (PLO) IN MORNING AS REPORTED REFTEL, THEY CALLED IN STRIKER REP CHATCHAWAN IN AFTERNOON. CONSULATE POLITICAL ASSISTANT PRESENT SAID DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THAI 333 HEADQUARTERS ENGAGED IN LAO OPERATIONS PLEADED WITH CHATCHAWAN TO LET NON-THAI EMPLOYEES ENTER TO FLY PLANES CARRYING RICE TO HUNGRY PEOPLE OVER THERE (IN LAOS). CHATCHAWAN INDICATED HE UNAWARE OF THIS PROBLEM AND SAID HE WOULD TRY TO GET STRIKERS ALLOW NON-THAI TO ENTER.

4. AT OUR REQUEST PLO THEN SET UP MEETING AT HIS OFFICE BETWEEN CHATCHAWAN AND ABADIE AT 1600. ABADIE REPORTS MEETING CORDIAL.

5. MEANWHILE WE CONTINUED REQUEST POLICE SEND MEN TO GATES TO GET STRIKERS ALLOW OTHER EMPLOYEES PASS. POLICE MET WORKER REP TO URGE HIM GET STRIKERS OBEY LAW AND FINALLY POSTED MEN AT GATES ABOUT 1700. THIS MORNING, HOWEVER, WE RECEIVED REPORTS MANY NON-THAI COULD STILL NOT GET IN WHILE POLICE DID NOTHING TO HELP. WE AND 333 AGAIN ASKED POLICE COMMANDER TO TELL STRIKERS TO ALLOW IN THOSE WHO WANTED TO ENTER.

6. WE HAVE STILL HAD NO TROUBLE ENTERING AND USAF PERSONNEL COME AND GO FREELY.

7. WORKERS MEETING AT 0900 TO ELECT REPS TO NEGOTIATE WITH AA. COMPANY BELIEVES, AND WE CONCUR, THAT THERE LIKELY TO BE CONSIDERABLE ARM TWISTING IN ELECTION. AA ASKED FOR NEUTRAL OBSERVER AND STRIKERS PROPOSED THIS BE CONSULATE LOCAL. PLO CAME TO CONSULATE THIS MORNING TO ASK OUR LOCAL GO TO ELECTION WHICH HE DID. BROH-KAHN. GDS.

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